

## QUESTION OF BATHS.

An Army Officer Evened Up Matters With an Auditor.

Auditors and comptrollers are the natural enemies of mankind," remarked an army officer, "but more particularly they are the enemies of an army officer. They take great delight in finding reasons why they should not pass an officer's accounts and take advantage of the least little technicality or any possible way of refusing to do so. Some time ago an officer to get a just claim that had been turned down by the auditor or comptroller was compelled to go to congress, and the printing bill for the account was four times as large as the amount in the first instance."

General Weston got the best of an auditor when he was in the Seventh cavalry, and this is the way he tells the story:

"I was on a horse board at Kansas City, and before a horse could be accepted he was sent a mile at a very fast clip to test his endurance. I observed that the men who were selling the horses had a rider who would take them behind a clump of trees where I could not see and shortened the distance. I decided to ride the horses myself, and I tried about twenty a day. I would get pretty well warmed up with that kind of work, and I went in afterward and took a bath. I charged up the bath each day in my expenses. But the account came back from the auditor with the indorsement:

"One bath a day is a luxury and not a necessity. One bath a week is enough."

"And I indorsed right under that, 'It may be enough for an auditor, but not for a cavalryman.'—Washington Post.

## NIGHT BLINDNESS.

A Condition in Which the Vision Fails as Daylight Fades.

Night blindness is a condition in which vision is perfect, or fairly so, in daylight, but fails with the setting of the sun and is not restored under ordinary conditions of artificial illumination. The sufferer from night blindness can usually see the light of a candle or lamp when he looks directly at it, but he cannot read even when the light is thrown directly upon the page. Usually, however, he sees well in a room lighted brilliantly with electricity, the degree of illumination then approaching that of sunlight.

The cause of night blindness is believed to be an exhausting of the power of vision by too great light, for it occurs mainly among soldiers and sailors in the tropics, who are exposed for many hours to the glare of the sun, and among arctic explorers, whose eyes are dazzled by reflection from the snow. On shipboard it is often associated with scurvy, and persons who are depressed physically or mentally or in any other way "run down" are more likely to suffer than the strong.

Sailors have a superstition that the trouble is due to imprudence in sleeping on deck in the moonlight, and this belief is embodied in the term "moon blink," by which they call it. The tropical moon is probably as guiltless in this respect as it is in the production of insanity.

The only treatment for night blindness is keeping away from bright light or protecting the eyes with goggles or a bandage until the exhausted retina has recovered its tone.—Youth's Companion.

## An Arab Tea Party.

A lady traveling in Morocco gives the following account of an Arab tea party: "Our host dispensed sherrub de minat, the wine of the country, made from grapes; the little dome shaped pewter teapot was there with its fond associations of Morocco, together with the copper tray and circle of diminutive painted glasses. A gorgeous indolent sun poured down beyond the patch of shade. The hum and hover of insects vibrated in the air, and presently musicians were summoned—girls wearing pale green jellabs and silver ornaments, with yellow handkerchiefs twisted around their heads and men in bright colors. Sitting down between us, each was given a glass of sherrub de minat and by and by they began to play. Weird and wild music it was, that of the tarrega, the gimbi and the tahr, quaint native instruments of the roughest construction and yet, as music, possessing fascination not a little."

## For Financial Purposes.

Before the collection was taken up at a negro place of worship the minister announced that he regretted to state a certain brother had retired to rest the night before without locking the door of his fowl house to find in the morning that all his chickens had vanished.

"I don't want to be personal," he continued, "but I have my suspicions as to who stole them chickens. If I'm right in those suspicions that man won't put any money in the box which will now be passed round."

There was a grand collection, not a single member of the congregation feigning sleep.

"Now, brethren," announced the minister, "I don't want all y'all dinners spoilt by wondering where dat brother lives who don't lock his chickens up at night. Dat brother don't exist, mah friends. He was a parable fob purposes ob finance."

## Cause of Yawning.

Yawning is commonly caused by a temporary deficiency of the air supply in the lungs. When the body is weary with hard and continuous work or mental study, lassitude from the effects of close, heavy air or intense heat, or perhaps from the peculiar state of the health, the respiratory process is sometimes involuntarily stayed for a few moments. To compensate for this stoppage of breathing nature steps in to the rescue and sets up a spasmodic action in the muscles of the mouth, throat and chest, which produces a deep inspiration which takes the form of a yawn.

## An Old Church Knocker.

The grotesque knocker on the sanctuary door of Durham cathedral, which bears a rather distinct resemblance to a lion, is said to be of the twelfth century. The hollows for the eyes may have been formerly filled with crystal or enamel, or, as it had been suggested, the open eyes may have been contrived to emit light from within the church, so as to guide the hapless being seeking sanctuary by night to the welcome haven of safety.—Chambers' Journal.

## "Told Him Goodby."

"I know that article was written by a southerner," said the astute city editor, and when some one asked why he explained: "A southerner would have put it, 'I said farewell,' or 'I said goodbye,' but never 'I told him goodby.' Your southerner always has it 'I told him goodby.'"—New York Press.

## Fame.

"Why don't you try to write your name on the scroll of fame?" "My friend," said Senator Sorghum very earnestly, "I have never yet seen anybody tearing leaflets out of the scroll of fame and getting them cashed at the bank."—Washington Star.

## His Habitual Reticence.

Reporter (in vestibule)—Is it true that Mr. Gotrox has just died?

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